



Soccer News



The Official Organ of
VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Edited by V. J. M. Dixon.

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DANGEROUS CENTRE



A HIGH CENTRE by Bobby Sharman (left-winger of South Yarra) is pushed away by Kevin Lott, with John Durnian in close attendance. An article on Wing Play by Joe Wilson appears in this edition.

Editorial

All communications re "Soccer News" must be sent to the Editor, V. J. M. Dixon, 40 Beach Road, Hampton.



The picture of leading players leaving their clubs in mid-season to transfer to others is not a pretty one. Such cases are liable to cause breaches between clubs which are difficult later to heal.

During the past two weeks the affairs of one First Division club have been in a state of flux and many unnecessary rumors have been started by those people who delight in spreading such tales. "Soccer News" is pleased to hear, on good authority that nothing untoward has come of this storm in a teacup and that saner counsels have prevailed. We trust they will continue to prevail.

Lying in bed in hospital brings home to one how hard it is for the "stay-at-homer" to follow soccer. With three stations to listen in to, all I can get is races and the "pea-nut" game. I sincerely hope that it will not be too long before we gain sufficient strength to claim a share of "radio time," just as this year we are beginning to come into our own with newspaper space.

Once again the teams have confounded the critics. Footscray City, who previously had only one win to their credit, surprised Park Rangers, to defeat them, 2-1, while Moreland (second from the bottom) drew with South Yarra. Greatest First Division shock, however, was previously undefeated Box Hill, who lowered their colors to Sunshine United. In the Second Division, South Melbourne's defeat of second-placers, Juventus, merely solidifies the hold the Middle Park team seem to be taking on this section. Yallourn, with their colossal win over Yarraville by 15-1, now go above Juventus. The result of the Preston-George Cross game was not sent in, despite the recent comment in these columns on the failure of clubs to notify results. Once again, this failure is only too apparent in the two Third Divisions, although several teams have decided to co-operate since last week. It is time the few remaining defaulters realised their responsibility to the game and came into line also. White Eagles are still the only team in the entire competition who have yet to drop a point.

This club should be worth watching and I hope when I get back on my feet to have that pleasure. Navy and JUST once more enjoyed heavy wins in the Third Division (South), while Moorabbin received a drubbing from Olympic, which, however, will not affect their position at present. Many spectators do not trouble themselves to turn up at grounds until the main game of the afternoon is about to commence. It may not be universally known that many Senior clubs run Junior teams in various age groups. These are divided into Under 19, Under 16, and Under 14 sections. The two latter groups play in the morning, but the Under 19 section acts as a curtain-raiser for the Senior games and kick-off at 1.15 p.m. Enthusiasts should not miss seeing these young players in action, for many of these teams receive first-class coaching and it is only too obvious to the initiated that it is from here that the bulk of Victoria's stars of tomorrow will come. Particulars of which clubs run these Junior teams (and there are many) may be obtained from the Association Handbook or by perusing the Junior League Tables on the back page of "Soccer News."

WHAT WILL IT BE ?

By A. S. JARVIS

A study of the goal averages of the teams in the top half of the respective English and Scottish First Divisions show a very low average of goals scored for and against per game. This indicates that either the third-back game has put a stopper on most forwards, or, when once a team has scored it reverts to defensive play, which is contrary to the spirit of the game.

Whilst time permits, a team should endeavor to score, therefore **attack** is the best **defence**. Sports writers in Scottish papers are now debunking the third-back style of play, as it has spoiled the game as a spectacle, and Raich Carter (captain-manager of Hull City), who has brought that club from the Third Division in 1948 to near the top of the Second Division in 1950, has this to say: "It is time that clubs decided to break away from this type of game, and football generally would benefit thereby."

There is too much safety first in football, and we have developed too much speed and bustle in our forward play to find time to learn the true artistry of the game. In Victoria, where we are striving to increase the popularity of our code, let us have attacking but skilful football and provide exhilarating games for the increasing number of followers, who expect something worth seeing.

There are two or three clubs in Victorian soccer who play the attacking game and they are finding that they can hold their own against teams which adopt the "stopper" style of play.

The popularity of "Aussie" rules is based on the spectacular high-marking, etc., but let us show the Australian public that there is considerable skill in the accomplished play of the first-class soccer player, and with the advent of more touring teams from overseas I am sure we will eventually gain a large number of converts to our code.

AFRICAN ITINERARY

Attack or Concentration on Defence ?

The liner "Arawa" will arrive in Capetown on May 21, carrying the Australian soccer team, which is to tour South Africa and Rhodesia. Sixteen players comprise the side. eleven of whom come from N.S.W., two from Victoria, two from Queensland and one from South Australia.

The tourists will play their opening match three days later, which is a public holiday in the Union, and the following day they will fly north to Johannesburg. In all, the visitors will play 18 games, including four Test matches. The complete itinerary is as follows:—

- May 24—V. Western Province at Capetown.
- May 27—V. Southern Transvaal at Johannesburg.
- May 31—V. Northern Transvaal at Pretoria.
- June 3—V. Natal at Durban.
- June 7—V. Orange Free State at Bloemfontein.
- June 10—V. Eastern Transvaal at Benoni.
- June 14—V. Southern Rhodesia at Salisbury.
- June 17—V. Southern Rhodesia at Bulawayo.
- June 21—V. Natal at Pietermaritzburg.
- June 24—V. South Africa (First Test) at Durban.
- June 28—V. Northern Transvaal (Country Districts) at Witbank.
- July 1—V. South Africa (Second Test) at Johannesburg.
- July 5—V. Southern Transvaal at Vereeniging.
- July 8—V. South Africa (Third Test) at Port Elizabeth.
- July 12—V. Griqualand at West Kimberley.
- July 15—V. Frontier at East London.
- July 19—V. South-Western Country Districts at Mossel Bay.
- July 22—South Africa (Fourth Test) at Capetown.

SOCCER AROUND THE GLOBE

By PERCY SEARLE

With attention centreing on the World Cup Series at Rio, many readers, no doubt, are anxious to learn as much about some of the apparently obscure teams competing. Tom Whittaker, English football club manager, raises the curtain somewhat in an article in "World Sports," dealing with Brazil. The tenor of his article is that they are soccer crazy. Everywhere where it is possible to play boys and young men kick the ball around till dark. The beaches saw them developing their game by trapping, dribbling and doing various tricks with the ball. In many countries other sports predominate, but in Brazil there is only one real love—soccer. Arsenal, who toured Brazil last year under Tom's management, realised that strict training was essential throughout the tour and received every facility from the Brazilians, regards equipment, doctors and massage establishments.

Sporting journalists watched every move of the English side closely, and reported daily in huge headlines the players' training methods, the way they conducted themselves after training, the food they ate, their amusements, and their dress. Summing up the Brazilians' play, Tom reckons it was good. Their sense of positional play was excellent. The man in possession never had to look where he was passing, for a colleague always made it easy by running into an open space at just the right time. Their failing was over-emphasis on individualism. A star man often went to great lengths to show the crowd how good he really was. His cleverness should be part of the team work—not apart from it.

Temperamentally excitable, they are much like other Continental sides. They are more inclined to give up if a goal down compared to English sides. However, if they get the first goal it arouses in the players and spectators tremendous enthusiasm, which even the excitement of the Hampden roar cannot compare.

Brazil has a great number of first-class brilliant and well-trained footballers, equipped from coach to dressing-room facilities. Every modern art is used in the dressing-rooms, including even the giving of oxygen at half-time. It is common-place in Brazil for players to receive at half-time vitamin pills. Arsenal visit was a big event, indicating what tense excitement is growing for the World Cup Tournament.



SECRETARY'S NOTES

Match Results.—Despite the editorial in last week's "Soccer News" re phoning of results, four results were not supplied. In addition, phone calls had to be made to some clubs to find out their scores. The defaulting clubs are known and fines can be imposed, but the solution does not lie in that direction, as fining is an unpleasant matter and would possibly only be a temporary answer. It is up to the clubs to make certain that one man is delegated to phone up the result each week. Where a majority of results are not received for one Division, the League Tables will not be published for that Division in future.

Another Stronghold for Soccer?

Wonthaggi has been rumored to be keen on forming a team, and more should be known in a few weeks' time.

Injured Player.—Billy Sinclair sustained a nasty injury at Olympic Park last week, but in the dressing-room he was more interested in the score than in himself. Could some kind person donate a stretcher, which would be kept at Olympic Park in case of emergency?

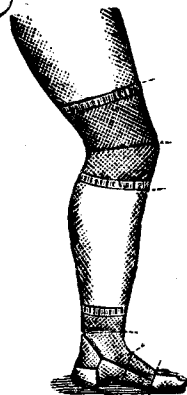
New Ground.—Statement last week that White Eagles' new ground is at Yarra Park, corner of Punt Road and Swan Street, Richmond. The secretary of the V.A.S.F.A. has had no notification from White Eagles on this matter, but has received word from South Yarra that they use the ground for their Third Division (North) team. White Eagles should notify the Association immediately on this matter.

Mr. W. Robertson has been appointed to the secretaryship of South Yarra Soccer Club. All correspondence should be addressed to Mr. Robertson at 43 Tyrone Street, South Yarra, S.E.1.

Home ground of the Third team of South Yarra is at the ground Macedonians played on. See Handbook for details.

Third Division Reserves.—As from and including May 13, 1950, Box Hill will take over the fixtures of International Harvesters. Substitute Box Hill for International Harvesters in the V.A.S.F.A. Blue Handbook.—S. BEATON, Secretary V.A.S.F.A.

Club Ground.—The Olympic Club's ground is at Princes Park, NOT Yarra Park. Instances of referees going to the wrong ground have occurred twice recently. Tram from Elizabeth St. to College Crescent.

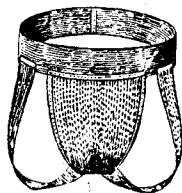


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GIPPSLAND GLEANINGS

By HARRY BAYLEY

Anyone who resided at Yallourn 26 years ago, when soccer was in its infancy in these parts, and when it was extremely difficult to procure suitable grounds or equipment, would be amazed at the remarkable scene which confronted him when he visited the Yallourn ovals last Saturday week.

Three playing fields were continually occupied and soccer started at 11 o'clock in the morning and continued non-stop until 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

Starting with schoolboy teams, when no less than about 88 players took part in their various games (due to the untiring efforts of Tommy Evans and Tommy Oddy), all were very happy and enthusiastic. No sooner had they finished their games when Junior football started. Excellent games were witnessed and some fine youngsters are already earmarked. Then we went on to a Senior game between Yallourn and Maryvale Paper Pulp team. That ever enthusiastic soccerite, Norman Minor, who is working extremely hard to foster the game at Maryvale, brought out a pretty strong team to battle with Yallourn, and a jolly fine game it was, which suitably ended in a draw. It was very noticeable during the game the real gentlemanly sportsmanship of all players. The game was keenly contested right up to the final whistle, yet all players refrained from arguing or allowing their tempers to become frayed. Just how soccer should be played. Congratulations to both sides.

No sooner had this game finished than the main match of the afternoon commenced. Yallourn Reserves had the honor of entertaining Western Suburbs, and again another fine game was witnessed. Although Yallourn proved too strong for their visitors (as the score of 8-0 would indicate), yet the game was both entertaining and clean, in fact, I do not recollect one deliberate foul against either side. Surely such games as these must be beneficial for the spread of soccer.

Well, there we are—a good solid five hours of soccer.

One might ask, "Don't you get thirsty and hungry, barracking for the boys all that time?" Of course we do. But that is where the ladies of Yallourn come into their own. There they are, all smiling and happy, and ready with tea and cakes at a nominal charge, helping to swell the finances of the club. What a glorious example they set for all players, managers and various committees. Keep it going, ladies.

One must, however, find amusing, the various languages and dialects. It seems as if every nationality under the sun is playing. Here you hear the various dialects of the English, Scotch, Irish, intermingled with Italian, Spanish, Maltese and Baltic. What a glorious recommendation for a universal game of soccer when all these men who cannot understand each other can participate in a game which is common to both.

Yes, we have come a long way in the past 26 years, and assuredly the progress in Gippsland during the next decade will be even more rapid.

Good luck to all the clubs, and remember—"KEEP THE GAME CLEAN."

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Pertinent Pars.

By PERCY SEARLE

FOOTBALL DE LUXE AT STATE TRIAL

Several hundred people were entertained by a veritable football feast by 22 of the State's leading players at Olympic Park last Sunday. Delightful passing movements, in which forwards and defenders alike took part, were fully appreciated by the spectators. On this display, Victoria's chances of winning the Interstate Carnival, to be held in Sydney later in the season, would appear very rosy.

THE BIG FOUR

South Yarra are now among that select band of clubs who field three Senior teams each week. Congratulations to them — Box Hill, Brighton and Park Rangers.

BARGAIN SALE

Junior balls from England sold out at 32/6 each. What clubs missed out?

IT REALLY HAPPENED

Reported that referee took player's name on field for infringement of rules and did not report same to the Association. Lucky player!

UNEXPECTED

Gordon Wilkinson, versatile Brighton left-half, scored an excellent goal at Olympic Park, versus Hakoah. From 35 yards out a powerful first-timer surprised everyone, especially the Hakoah custodian.

MANY ARE WONDERING

Why that sign at Olympic Park advertising Soccer never has the competing teams displayed. "Phantom" teams won't attract supporters!

VICTORIAN STAR TRANSFERS

Former South Yarra star, Dave Stoddard, appeared with his new club (Brighton) last week. Believe his housing problem is solved now! Dave made his debut with a goal in his best style.

MISSING OUT

A certain club's results seldom appear in the newspapers on Monday. No pennies for the phone?

ENTERPRISE

Business man out Coburg way has contacted Glasgow Rangers by correspondence. From what one hears, it might be a two-way trade agreement. Parcels are going out, and maybe some players coming in! More anon.

MYSTERY

Why does a player good enough to gain a State Trial continue to play with his club's Reserve team? McDonald, of Prahran, is the player in question.

BACK TO THE FOLD

George Cross are to be congratulated on accepting their penalty with good grace and carrying on. Other clubs might have closed down.

DOES YOUR CLUB OFFEND?

Would like to know why we can't get ALL our results in the "Sporting Globe" Saturday night. Offending clubs must be dealt with. Monday morning results are antiquated.

KNOW YOUR CLUBS—8

BOX HILL

The Box Hill Soccer Club, which today is one of the strongest clubs in Victoria, was formed in 1920 by migrants from the British Isles, who settled in Box Hill after the 1st Great War.

Box Hill's first ground was situated adjacent to the cemetery in Whitehorse Road, which, no doubt, had a psychological effect on the opposition. The club struggled along till about 1926, when headquarters was shifted to Springfield Park—a very crude area which boasted of a spring in the centre of the ground. The club used this ground until 1939, when it was allotted Surrey Park—its present ground.

Fortunes fluctuated during the first 20 years, and, like all other clubs, Box Hill was badly hit by the depression, when players and supporters dwindled away to next to nil and the cash book showed a deficit. Box Hill reached an all-time low in March, 1940, and when the annual meeting was called, only six members attended. These members voted unanimously that the club should not disband and took upon themselves the responsibility of rebuilding the club. It may be of interest to recall their names: the then President (Mr. A. McKellar) and Messrs. J. Fox, J. Bailey, W. Weston, A. McKellar, jr., and F. Smith.

The undaunted six immediately commenced the hard, up-hill fight and to these six men the club owes a great debt, as it is certain that if they had taken the easy way out, soccer would not be played in Box Hill today.

At the next meeting of the club, The Old Boys' Association presented the club with a new ball and Mr. Wilshaw attended, and by his inspiring words and generous actions, gave the members the incentive to carry on.

Another person who had a great deal to do with the resurrection of the club was Mrs. Fox. When the club was £12 in debt, this wonderful woman by hard work and self sacrifice organised dances and card nights. Mrs. Fox, who has a grand personality, still helps to run these functions for the club, who in return honored her work in 1947 by making her a life member of the club.

During the war years, when soccer football was abandoned, the club fostered Junior football, and teams were successful in winning many cups and trophies. The work of organising and coaching these lads fell on to the shoulders of Messrs. A. McKellar, J. Fox and T. Buist, and many of the players that they coaxed into the game, have not only represented Box Hill, but also Victoria. The main result of keeping the Juniors going was that when Senior football recommenced, the club had a ready-made local side.

Another man who has given Box Hill great service, both on and off the field, is Jack Halborn. Jack, who first played Senior football at the age of 13, is now a tower of strength at full-back with the Firsts. Jack is not satisfied, however, to be a player only, and for the past three years has been coach of the Under 14 team, and his efforts were rewarded last year, when these boys won their premiership.

Present President is Mr. G. A. Benson, who, a convert from rugby, has been with Box Hill five years, and in his first year as president, by his enthusiasm gives the club a tremendous drive. Mr. G. L. Hutchinson is Secretary and is tackling a difficult job well, following as he is in the footsteps of Mr. Alex Jarvis, who recently resigned, but is still giving great service to the club. Mr. K. W. (King) Martin is social secretary. His splendid personality and quick wit make him very popular with all hands. A very hard worker and a most enterprising fellow. Others who are giving the club great service are: Bob Brown, an ex-player, now in charge of materials and is on the selection committee. A Braithwaite, is an enthusiastic committeeman, whose rope tricks keep spectators off the playing field on Saturdays.

In closing, credit must be given to Bob McFeeters for his excellent work in coaching, which has done so much to make Box Hill the power that it is this season.

Next Week: FIFERS.

CLUB JOTTINGS

MORELAND SOCCER CLUB

Members are all looking forward to the club dance in the Northcote Scout Hall on Saturday, May 13. Star attraction will be Forrester Fairweather playing the bagpipes, with Selector George Henderson giving the Australian version of the Highland Fling. Treasurer Marshal Lock will not be collecting the money at the door this year as at the last dance he broke three teeth biting the coins. We would also like all the Scotchmen in the club to enter the hall through the front door this time, as we also have a ticket collector on each window. Committee is pleased to see the Reserves coming good, and are beginning to wonder who would win a match between the First team and the Reserves. Don Drake opened his score with two goals. Nice work, Don. Reg Hard(luck)man has been unlucky lately. Hit the bar twice on Saturday.

Three players watched Moreland go down to Sunshine from the sideline with strange mutterings, which, deciphered from English to something understandable, meant "Wouldn't it."

ROYAL CALEDONIANS

We met Fifers at home and lost 5 goals to 1, although the score seems to flatter Fifers a little, but their forwards were pretty accurate. A very unfortunate accident marred the game, when about 20 minutes from time. Caley's outside-left, H. Mawby, sustained a broken leg, and was admitted to Royal Melbourne Hospital. He was playing his first game with us and had only been in this country a few weeks. When the accident occurred the score was 1-0 against us, but the occurrence seemed to upset the team, and four goals, including a penalty goal, were scored, to one goal in reply.



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SANDRINGHAM CITY

In a very robust game last Saturday against our friendly rivals, City ran out easy winners, but we can not understand why Hakoah are so low on the list, as they gave us some anxious moments.

In a very nice gesture, the manager of the Hakoah club presented to our captain a nice bouquet of flowers, and hoped that the friendship that existed between the two clubs, which dates back from our Second Division days, would remain. Thanks, Hakoah.

At night a very successful crazy whist drive was held at Mr. and Mrs. McLennan's, and an enjoyable night was had by all, and quite a nice sum of money was handed over to the social secretary.

Tomorrow we visit the Naval Depot and we will be putting out a strong team.

Sunday, June 11, we play Woonona Bulli at Wonthaggi, and a £100 gate is expected for the Wonthaggi Hospital.

The City is looking forward to today's game against Prahran.

Our Reserve team, which is nearly back to full strength after injuries to the First team, had a good win over Hakoah. Jim Kemp, back in goal, played a good steady game and saved a couple of scorchers.

HEIDELBERG

A much improved Heidelberg side gave a good display against Western Suburbs and up to the time of losing their right-half through injury, had the better of the exchanges. Newcomers, goalkeeper Vagn Andersen, and right-back Ivan Moore, proved a great acquisition, and Heidelberg may confidently look forward to better fortune in their remaining fixtures.

An otherwise keenly and fairly contested game was marred in the closing stages of play by incidents which resulted in a Western Suburbs defender being ordered to leave the field, whilst another, who threw a punch at a Heidelberg forward, received a warning. Cliff Hough, Heidelberg's inside-left, had to be carried off the field with a back injury.

The final score was, Western Suburbs 4 goals, Heidelberg 1 goal.

Heidelberg's newly-formed social committee are planning a series of dances, whist drives and other functions to which they extend a warm welcome to all. Please watch for details. New players and supporters will also receive a very cordial reception.

UNIVERSITY

University again brought off a double last Saturday. The First XI, in a game of poor quality, defeated Ringwood, 4-2. Deacon opened University's account in the first minute, following a slip by a defender, and shortly after half-time Ringwood equalised in similar fashion. Warburton put University in front, but injured himself and the goalkeeper to the extent of their both having to leave the field. Jamieson increased the lead, but a further goal from Ringwood kept the issue open, until Deacon shot through with a few minutes to go.

Meanwhile, the Reserves, who had to play Ringwood with the handicap of one less player, had a creditable 2-0 victory, both goals coming in the second half from Johnston.

COBURG SOCCER CLUB

Coburg soccer club had another three victories on Saturday, May 6. Seniors defeated South Yarra, 4-1, but the Yarra boys only turned up with nine men. Juniors Under 19 won, 2-1, against Northcote, and the Schoolboys won, 2-1, against Bentleigh. The Coburg boys are now all out for promotion, as the club is looking forward to the Second Division next year (we hope). The Schoolboys are putting up a good performance, as only two originally, have played soccer before the season commenced. The Under 19 are also coming to hand as the season goes on.

The picnic to Warrandyte was not a success financially. The weather in the morning was very drizzly; nevertheless, the outing is keeping the boys together. The most disappointing part is how the Reserves are being neglected, through wrong fixtures, owing to teams pulling out of the Division; also starting times. But the boys are all keen for a game.

BOX HILL

Box Hill were beaten, 2—1, by Sunshine after a very fast game on Saturday and were beaten by a better team on the day. Sunshine attacked from the first whistle and were not giving Box Hill a chance to settle down. Alan Gravel was in good form and was saving everything. Brown got Box Hill forwards moving and they were dangerous, but Sunshine were soon on the attack again, and this time saw the centre-forward get a header into the net, and the Hills were one down. Sunshine kept attacking, but a long pass from Brown found Neil, the centre-forward, who transferred it to McFeeters; only to see him shoot over the top with only the goalkeeper to beat. The second half was as fast as the first, with very good soccer being played by both sides. Box Hill were attacking repeatedly, and Tom Davis equalised with a terrific shot from 20 yards out, which gave Sunshine goalie no chance. Sunshine were not to be denied though, and went into the lead with a good goal scored by their inside-right. Box Hill threw everything into attack but were held off. Too many corner kicks were wasted, which gave Sunshine the breather they wanted. It was a great game and was well refereed. Saturday, 13, was unlucky for the Hills, as only one side (the Reserves) won, 4—2, at the expense of Sunshine Reserves.

SOUTH YARRA RESERVES v. MORELAND RESERVES

This game was played at Falkner Park last Saturday. Although Moreland scored first, South Yarra had little difficulty in disposing of them to the tune of 6—1. McDonald opened the scoring for Moreland, but Yarra quickly replied with goals from Hore, Hallasly and Hawkes. At half-time the scores were, South Yarra 3 goals, Moreland 1 goal.

Upon resumption of play, Hore scored again for Yarra. Moreland's goalie was getting plenty of work and made an exceptionally good save when Tainsh drove in a terrific shot. Hore and Hawkes added further goals and the game finished with Yarra running out easy winners.

Save our Native Fauna No. 5



Two mammals alone in the world lay eggs, thus providing the scientist's "missing link" with the lower animals. Both are Australian: the Platypus is one, and the other is the Echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus*) which wanders in the open forest in search of ants and termites. It is protected by a coat of prickles superficially like those of the Porcupine to which, however, it is not related. A full grown specimen may weigh four or five pounds; but its mouth is less than half an inch wide, and toothless. It has to catch insects almost constantly with its long sticky tongue to survive. It has stout claws for breaking open ant nests.

(Advertisement of Carlton & United Breweries Ltd., Makers of Victoria Bitter, a healthful beverage).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Readers are invited to send along queries, suggestions, etc., to the Editor. All will be given appropriate consideration.



Many anonymous letters have been received for publication. These cannot be accepted unless the writers' names are forwarded also to the Editor.

* * *

Sir,—I feel that I should mention an incident that happened at the South Melbourne Reserves v Ringwood Reserves match at Middle Park on May 6, 1950. That is, the way the referee called all players of both sides and complimented them on their clean and good game, which is in itself a good thing for the boys and spectators alike.

May I, through "Soccer News", give my thanks and best wishes to the referee, who is a credit to the code. His handling of the match was perfect. —Yours, etc., A. BAILEY.

Sir,—How much longer is "amateur" Australian soccer going to slavishly follow "professional" English soccer in not allowing the replacement of injured players.

Is not this obsolete rule an inducement to an unscrupulous player to injure another player in order to give his team an advantage? This is a case where we can learn something from Continental soccer. What do other readers think? Congratulations to the new and better "Soccer News". Just one suggestion — more gossip about individual players. —Yours, etc., "FAIR PLAY".

Sir,—It is noted that in the May 6 issue of "Soccer News" Mr. J. Findlay, of Traralgon, made many statements, which, besides being erroneous, is giving a false impression of the progress of soccer in Gippsland.

I will admit that Maryvale has a team, or should I say, part of a team, formed, and they have already played a friendly game with the Yallourn Third team. But what Mr. Findlay doesn't realise, was the difficulty we had in fielding a Third team. Many of our players are called upon to work on Saturdays, and we must always have players to fulfill our obligations to the Melbourne Association.

We were again asked by Maryvale to arrange another game, but only on condition that we could loan them five players. Surely there's something wrong with Mr. Findlay's statement that they are ready for local soccer competition.

Yallourn North has a team, but only just, as it was necessary for them to call on Yallourn players to fill their team to play a friendly game on Saturday May 6. As regards West Camp, as far as I know, they have no team, and very little effort is being made to form one.

The Yallourn club still adheres to its decision and that is that clubs must first be formed, and when I say clubs, I do not mean just 11 men, but all that goes with a club, such as suitable grounds and amenities, etc. These have, I am pleased to say, been supplied at Yallourn, thanks to the untiring efforts of super enthusiastic men and women, and we will, I hope, continue to make improvements so that when our Melbourne friends and local teams visit us, we will be in the position to give their players all the amenities and convenience it is possible to give. Meanwhile, I am sure that local teams will be formed, and that friendly matches will be arranged on Saturdays and Sundays.

This, I feel confident, is the first step in forming a Gippsland League, and if Mr. Findlay (or his informant) has other ideas, I am confident that he will receive all the encouragement from the Yallourn club.

Finally, let me assure Mr. Findlay that we are doing, and will continue to do our very utmost to boost and foster the game of soccer in Gippsland. —Yours, etc., H. BAYLEY.

[We would suggest that all you Gippsland enthusiasts get together and call a general meeting to talk this business over.—Editor.]

Sir,—It is suggested that full rounds of games on Easter Saturday and Monday are rather strenuous for players so early in the season, so if the Association must commence the season early why not split the games with some clubs engaged on Saturday only and the others on the Monday? No doubt this would also financial benefit the home clubs who are playing in the "game of the day".—Yours, etc., "INTERESTED", Box Hill.

Sir,—May we, through medium of "Soccer News" appeal for funds from the soccer enthusiasts in Victoria? The Junior Association, who are working to lay a true foundation for soccer in Victoria mainly through the Australian born youth, are in need of funds to carry out its programme of Interstate and Representative matches. Our revenue is, as all must know, not very great. The club subscriptions to us are very small, and our general funds are not sufficient for us to do what we would like to do, without appealing to the Victorian soccer public. Our Association this year is sending an Under 19 team to South Australia to compete for the Interstate "Skolnik Cup." We also expect to send an Under 14 team to New South Wales to take part in the Interstate Schoolboys' Carnival, to be held in that State, and in the month of August, we will be receiving in Victoria, a visit from the Champion Junior team of New South Wales, the Charlestown Juniors.

All this, as you must realise, takes money, and that is something we haven't got. Can your readers help us? Any donation, big or small, would be welcome. All donations will be acknowledged per medium of "Soccer News," and will be gratefully received by the Junior Association.—We remain,

JOCK PARKER (Chairman), JACK OLSEN (Secretary) V.J.A.S.F.A.

STATE TRIAL

The following players have been chosen to play at Olympic Park on Sunday, May 28. Players to report at dressing-room at 2.15 p.m. Any player not reporting before 2.30 p.m. will be replaced by reserve :—

Gravell
(Box Hill)

Heath
(Moreland)

Harroldin
(Sunshine)

McDougall
(Brighton)

White
(Sandringham)

Manzi
(Juventus)

Wilson
(Sandringham)

Dobrich
(J.U.S.T.)

Stoddard
(Brighton)

Lachman
(Pahran)

Meddic
(Hakoah)

McFeeters
(Box Hill)

Buryanek
(J.U.S.T.)

Neil
(Box Hill)

Hardman
(Moreland)

Carter
(Pahran))

Drennen
(Sunshine)

McDonald
(Pahran)

Hunt
(Navy)

Scott
(Brighton)

Goode
(Brighton)

McFarlane
(Fifers)

RESERVES.—**Klimcsok** (Western Suburbs), **Moucka** (Hakoah), **Sharman** (South Yarra), **Parvin** (Sandringham).

Reserves who attend above Trial will automatically play in the following Trial on June 25. Several players failed to notify selectors of their inability to attend the last Trial, therefore the selectors feel that consideration of their claims must be left until some explanation is received. If unable to attend, please send letter to A. Kerr, 50 Mangalore Street, Ascot Vale.

JUNIOR SECTION

After the conclusion of last Saturday's games very little change occurred in the "A" Section of the Under 19 Division, the four top teams (South Yarra, Box Hill, Sunshine United, and Brighton) all winning their respective matches. The only change was that of Sandringham City, who, by their win over Park Rangers, and Army Apprentices' defeat by Brighton, moved from sixth position to fifth. Until last Saturday, South Yarra, the leading team in this Division, had a three-point lead over its nearest opponents, but Sunshine United, in causing South Yarra's first defeat for the season, reduced their lead, and now both Box Hill and Sunshine are keen contenders for the top position.

In the "B" Section of this Division, Yallourn continues on its winning way and are still five clear points in front. All positions on the ladder in this section remained unchanged after last Saturday's games.

In the Under 16 Division, the three top teams remained unchanged, although South Melbourne United (third) were defeated by Brighton (second). Box Hill's decisive win over Sandringham City, brought them into fourth position.

The two local Sunshine teams, Western Suburbs and Sunshine United, still remain on top in the Under 14 Division, and Coburg still retains their place, although South Melbourne "A" team had a very comfortable win over them last Saturday. Four teams share fourth place in this division, namely, Park Rangers, Box Hill, South Melbourne "A" and Sandringham City. The Highett National Fitness team showed some improved form in their game against Sandringham City, and were only defeated by the narrow margin of 2 goals to 1.

The main matches in the Under 19 Division today will be in the "A" Section (Box Hill versus South Yarra), and in the "B" Section (Juventus versus Coburg). A win for Box Hill would oust South Yarra from the leading position in the "A" Section, whilst in the "B" Section, a win for either of the contenders (Juventus or Coburg) would place them into second place behind the leaders—Yallourn. Yallourn are up against the strong Preston team. Preston have only lost two matches this season, and on their home ground today, it is possible for them to win, and thus be the first team to lower the Yallourn team's colors.

* * *

Footscray Junior Technical School v. South Melbourne Junior Technical School.—The Footscray team is being coached by two senior schoolboys, and the club is improving. They were defeated, 6-1 and 3-0 by Oakleigh and Brighton respectively. However, on Wednesday, May 10, they drew with South Melbourne. Footscray won the toss and kicked with the wind. In one minute, inside-left, Brittle, opened the score for Footscray. Soon afterwards, the player converted a free kick from just outside the penalty area. By this time, conditions were made very greasy by a light drizzle of rain. From fine constructive work by inside-right, Durkin, centre-forward Barclay scored Footscray's third. Footscray defenders then conceded a penalty, resulting in South Melbourne's first goal, but again Footscray scored through Barclay. At half-time the scores were 4-1 in Footscray's favor. South Melbourne levelled the score to 4-4 in the second half.

"SOCCER NEWS" COMPETITION

Soccer Fans—here is your opportunity to win a CASH PRIZE. Starting next week, "Soccer News" will feature a weekly competition. It is a Test of Skill in forecasting the results of a certain number of games. Entirely Free, it is open to all "Soccer News" readers. Be sure and order your copy next week, which will contain full details of the contest.

LEARN FROM VICTORIA'S STARS

8 — The Winger

By JOE WILSON

A Winger or Wingers are the essential men of the forward line. His main job as soon as he receives the ball is to "make ground" so that when he crosses his ball his centre-forward or inside men are within shooting distance. To pass to your centre-forward when he is too far out to put in an effective shot means that he has to "bottle" to within shooting distance which is "slow football." Therefore, all approach work should, as far as possible, be done on the wings. Now, if we were masters of Dribble like Stanley Matthews, this approach work would be a lot easier, but if we are not, the only way to remedy it is to make full use of your inside man. A get-together between yourself and your inside man is essential so that you can work out an understanding with him. Get into the habit of running into "the open space" whenever he gets the ball and if he does the same, you will find that you know where he will be without looking up from the ball. Interchanging with your inside man is one of the best ways of unsettling your opposing defence. When you want to interchange, hang back downfield slightly and as soon as you receive the ball cut infield; automatically your partner cuts out to your wing and into the open space ready to receive your pass which, if it connects will leave the opposing defence "all at sea."

The cross or centre should always be squared back from the goalposts. Make your target just beyond the Penalty Spot, then your Centre-Forward can position himself accordingly. Now and again drop an occasional long one to your Outside-Left. Develop your two feet; always be confident that you could centre with either foot at any time.

The best training for these occasional bursts of speed which are essential is the Run, Walk, Run on a training night. Start off at a jog-trot, then when you begin breathing heavier, walk for a couple of hundred yards, then burst into a 20 yards dash, then a steady walk. Keep doing this and on the Saturday you will find that your lungs will enable you to keep up these bursts of speed indefinitely.

Always be satisfied if you are "making" the goals. Don't try all these impossible angle shots from the wings because there is nearly always a teammate in a better position facing square on to the goal. The best time to go for goal would be when your centre-forward passes to you because you know then that he was in a bad position for a shot, so then it's up to you. Always try to be in an open space even though the ball is nowhere near.

[Joe Wilson, outside-right, of Sandringham City, is one of the outstanding wingers in Victoria today. He has had considerable experience with Newcastle United, the famous English First Division team, and his article, read in conjunction with that of Alec Barr (published in last week's "Soccer News") will give junior players an ideal insight of wing play.—Editor.]

NOTICE

"Soccer News" urgently wants good photographs of players, action shots and officials. If you have any that you think suitable for reproduction, send them along.

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League Tables as at May 13, 1950

- Goals											Goals										
P W D L F A P							P W D L F A P														
First Division							Third Division (South)														
Sunshine United	8	6	0	2	20	11	12	JUST	8	6	2	0	52	4	14						
Sandringham City	8	5	2	1	18	12	12	F.N.D.	7	6	1	0	30	4	13						
Brighton	8	4	2	2	23	14	10	Victoria Police	8	6	0	2	27	12	12						
South Yarra	8	4	2	2	15	11	10	Moorabbin	8	3	2	3	29	14	8						
Box Hill	6	4	1	1	22	10	9	Olympic	6	4	0	2	16	9	8						
Prahran	8	4	0	4	18	20	8	Box Hill	8	3	0	5	11	30	6						
Footscray City	7	2	1	4	13	20	5	Park Rangers	7	2	0	5	19	29	4						
Park Rangers	8	2	0	6	11	14	4	Bentleigh	8	2	0	6	17	42	4						
Moreland	8	1	2	5	11	23	4	Brighton	7	1	1	5	17	37	3						
Hakoah	7	1	0	6	9	25	2														
Second Division							First Division Reserves														
South Melbourne	8	7	0	1	35	13	14	Park Rangers	8	6	1	1	32	12	13						
Preston	8	6	0	2	32	15	12	Brighton	8	5	2	1	24	15	12						
Yallourn	7	5	1	1	49	15	11	Sandringham	8	5	1	2	16	10	11						
Juventus	8	4	2	2	23	12	10	South Yarra	8	5	1	2	22	17	11						
Western Suburbs	6	3	0	3	24	15	6	Prahran	8	4	1	3	20	11							
Yarraville	7	2	1	4	10	44	5	Box Hill	7	4	0	3	19	14							
George Cross	4	2	0	2	4	7	4	Sunshine United	8	2	3	3	19	19	7						
Melb. University	6	2	0	4	12	20	4	Hakoah	7	2	0	5	10	21	4						
Ringwood	8	2	0	6	18	32	4	Moreland	8	1	1	6	17	31	3						
Heidelberg	8	0	0	8	9	43	0	Footscray City	8	0	0	8	8	37	0						
Third Division (North)							Second Division Reserves														
White Eagles	7	7	0	0	45	7	14	Yallourn	7	7	0	0	53	5	14						
Piffers	8	7	0	1	30	13	14	Preston	8	6	1	1	24	9	13						
Coburg	8	5	0	3	22	19	10	Juventus	8	6	0	2	39	18	12						
Geelong Celtic	7	4	1	2	22	16	9	South Melbourne	8	4	1	3	27	11	9						
Williamstown	8	4	0	4	12	22	8	Western Suburbs	7	4	0	3	32	21	8						
Melbourne Rangers	7	3	0	4	19	24	6	Melb. University	6	3	0	3	22	21	6						
Woodlands	7	2	0	5	17	37	4	Heidelberg	8	2	0	6	7	57	4						
Royal Caledonians	6	1	0	5	13	21	2	George Cross	4	1	0	3	4	8	2						
Inter. Harvesters	5	0	1	4	8	13	1	Ringwood	8	1	0	7	0	28	2						
South Yarra	5	0	0	5	2	16	0	Yarraville	6	0	0	6	4	34	0						

Junior Amateur League Tables as at May 13, 1950

Under 19 "A" Section											Under 16 Division										
South Yarra	7	6	0	1	21	9	12				Northcote	8	7	0	1	21	4	14			
Box Hill	7	5	1	1	15	4	11				Brighton	8	7	0	1	24	8	14			
Sunshine United	7	5	1	1	22	7	11				South Melb. United	8	4	2	2	16	10	10			
Brighton	6	4	0	2	24	6	8				Box Hill	8	4	1	3	20	8	9			
Sandringham City	7	2	1	4	10	20	5				Park Rangers	7	4	0	3	11	12	8			
Army Apprentices	6	2	1	3	6	23	5				Sandringham City	8	4	0	4	14	19	8			
Park Rangers	7	1	0	6	6	35	2				Ringwood	7	2	0	5	12	21	4			
Hakoah	7	0	0	7	0	0	0				South Yarra	8	2	0	6	8	25	4			
											Preston	7	1	1	5	4	11	3			
											Sunshine United	7	1	0	6	2	14				
Under 19 "B" Section											Under 14 Division										
Yallourn	8	8	0	0	22	2	16				Western Suburbs	7	7	0	0	24	4				
Coburg	8	5	1	2	18	11	11				Sunshine United	8	5	2	1	27	7	12			
Juventus	8	5	1	2	23	16	11				Coburg	8	5	0	3	21	21	10			
Preston	7	5	0	2	26	8	10				Park Rangers	7	4	1	2	29	4	9			
South Melb. United	8	4	0	4	19	11	8				Box Hill	7	4	1	2	15	5	9			
Ringwood	8	3	0	5	11	16	6				Sth. Melb. United "A"	8	4	1	3	25	10	9			
Yarraville	6	1	3	2	8	9	5				Sandringham City	7	4	1	2	11	10	9			
Moorabbin	8	2	1	5	17	27	5				Preston	8	3	1	4	22	27	7			
Metters	8	1	2	5	10	26	4				Brighton	8	2	1	5	13	23	5			
Northcote	7	0	0	7	5	35	0				Bentleigh	8	2	0	6	8	18	4			
											Sth. Melb. United "B"	8	2	0	6	6	22	4			
											Highett N.F.	8	0	0	8	4	54	0			

Under 19.—Yarraville v. Northcote match not played on May 13.

Under 19.—Box Hill awarded points in match against Hakoah listed for May 13.

Under 16.—Park Rangers v. Preston match not played on May 13.

No Third Division fixtures published as no results have been received.